

REMARKS

Paragraph 6 of the above-identified Office Action asserts that the word “simultaneously” should be substituted for “concurrently” in Claims 1 and 9-11. In response, that substitution has been made in each of those claims.

In paragraph 9 of the Office Action, all of the claims were again rejected in view of a combination of the disclosures of the previously cited Motoyama and Ett references. In response to these rejections, each of independent Claims 1, 9, 10 and 11, has been amended, and such claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth below.

First it is noted that support for the concluding clause that has now been added to each of Claims 1 and 9-11 may be found at least in Figs. 9 and 10, and in the corresponding descriptions. Namely, Fig. 9 shows an example of selecting image data for printing when iCOPY is designated, and Fig. 10 shows an example of selecting application data for sending when iSEND is designated. These selections are executed automatically by a multifunction copying apparatus 105, not by a user.

That clause states, in Claim 1, “wherein said control means automatically selects the first data, but does not select the second data, in response to a designation by said designation means of a transmission as the output method, and automatically selects the second data, but does not select the first data, in response to a designation by said designation means of a printing as the output method.”

By virtue of these features of the present invention, it is possible to perform an efficient processing in which data according to the designated output method (printing/sending) is selected automatically without a user's attention. For example, when printing is designated, image data is automatically selected, thereby the printing is executed at high speed. On the other hand, when sending is designated, application data is automatically selected, thereby increasing flexibility in editing of the data at the receiver side.

Referring now to the cited Motoyama and Ett references, Motoyama discloses a technique for selecting registered image data from a menu as shown in Fig. 8, and for merging

the selected image data with other image data, while also disclosing a technique for printing and transmitting the merged image data. However, the Motoyama reference merely discloses merging two pieces of data and outputting the merged data, or outputting the two pieces of data without merging, in accordance with user's instruction. In other words, Motoyama fails to disclose or suggest any procedure that automatically selects the first data, but does not select the second data, in response a designation by said designation means of a transmission as the output method, and automatically selects the second data, but does not select the first data, in response to a printing as the output method, as the present invention requires.

Ett also fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention having the above feature.

Accordingly, Applicant believes that the amended independent claims are allowable, together with the dependent claims, wherefore the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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